k Dickson G-5 (1929-47) 1951 MI 1 Kuwait
Bedouins MJ4

They seem to feel the sun on their heads more than on their bodies. 233
They then have a trick of collecting in clumps of ten to fifteen with lowered heads to the centre, to get shade.

If sheep get frightened of a horseman or motor car, they bolt to their shepherd for protection.

The way to test a sheep's condition is to weigh its tail in your hand. If the tail is heavy the sheep's condition is good.

Sheep are watered according to the season of the year. In winter they do not drink, as grazing gives them the necessary moisture. In March they drink every other day—in mid-summer every day.

GOATS

Nomenclature.

Sakhla, plu. *Sakhal*—A goat (general).
Tais—He-goat.
'Anz—She-goat.
Ma'aza—Herd of full-grown goats.
Al Sakhla—Kids.

Names of Varieties in Kuwait and North-East Arabia.

Berberiyah—Small, white, black-and-white, and black goat, always short haired—long eared. Gives very good milk.
A'ardhiyah—Long haired, always black (with occasional white marking), also long eared.
Shaura—Short-eared goats.

GOAT DISEASES 232

There are only two recognised goat diseases:

(a) *Abu Rumah.* (b) *Al Jarah.*

Abu Rumah.—A disease of the internal organs, probably lungs. Symptoms: The goat lies down, and appears to have high fever. It is unable to move and moans as if in great pain. The sickness lasts seven days and then the goat dies. The only cure is to kill one of the affected animals, cut out its lungs (*sakara*), and bury them. The lungs are left underground for approximately an hour. Then they are cut up into small pieces, which are mixed with certain herbs, viz. *zayir*, *sadir*,

L Dickson G-5 (1929-47) 1951 MI 1 Kuwait
Bedouins MJ4

232 *ballir* (not found in Arabia). The ear of the sick goat is sliced open at the top end until blood is drawn, and the mixture is well rubbed into the wound. Usually a small ball of the mixture is made and placed under the skin for an hour (the skin being cut and the ball placed underneath, and the skin flap placed over the ball to keep it in position). All goats of the flock, whether known to be infected or not, are treated thus, and if attacked have a good chance of recovery. The disease is highly contagious.

Under the above treatment 50 per cent usually recover. If no treatment is given the whole flock is doomed. The disease reappears in a district every two or three years.

Al Jarrak.—A virulent form of mange. The cure is to cut all the goat's hair off and smear the skin plentifully with an ointment made from gunpowder and clarified butter. This must be done three times to effect a cure. The mange does not attack sheep, dogs, camels or horses, and man is also safe from the disease. Ninety per cent of goats escape if treated in time.

GENERAL REMARKS

233 In the desert goats are chiefly kept for the sake of their milk and hair. The Badawin prefer sheep, but the more well-to-do try to keep a certain number of goats, for goats' hair is superior to sheep's wool for certain parts of their black tents.

In every Badawin hair tent the roof consists of a central broad strip, with two strips of black wool or hair on either side of it. The strip furthest from the central strip is always made of goats' hair, as it is stronger and takes the weight of the *rusg*, or back curtain, better.

231
552

GOAT-NAMES AMONG THE 'AWAZIM

Al Dunjya (no meaning).
Al Sha'ail (The yellow one).
Al Rakuk (The spotted one).
Al Khaim (The white-headed one).
Al Dughaim (The black-headed one).
Al Tawil (The tall one).

& Dickson G-5 (1929-47) 1951 MI I Kuwait
Bedouins MJ4

Diseases of the Camel

492

The leather bag for rifle.
The camel stick.
The leather bag for dates.
Package of *ighe* (dried milk).
The bag holding coffee, *hail* (cardamum seeds), etc.
A man's ammunition is carried bandolier fashion on his person, while spare ammunition goes in a spare woollen bag, which with the date and coffee bags are stowed away in the saddle bags.

Note.—There is another sort of saddle, the *fulási*, much used in the south among the Murra and people of the "great desert". It has no pommels, and the rider sits behind the hump (see sketch, page 87).

CAMEL PACES

The pace of an ordinary riding camel is approximately 4 miles an hour at a walk, 6 miles per hour trotting and walking, 8 miles an hour at a trot, 13 miles an hour when "all out" over a short distance and 10 miles an hour moving fast over a long distance of say 100 miles. A laden camel moves at about 3 miles an hour. Bin Sa'ud's express riders between Oqair and Hufuf take 5 hours regularly for the distance of 60 miles. Messengers going between Kuwait and Riyadh, a distance of 500 miles or slightly less, take regularly 10 days to do the journey.

492
231

In winter or when the weather is cool, travelling is done mostly by day, in summer by night.

Halts are made every 20 miles or so to drink coffee, which is carried ready made, and needs only to be heated up. Brushwood is usually found ready to hand by the way, if not, the camel dung (*jalla*), of which a small supply is always carried, is used. It burns like charcoal.

CAMEL DISEASES

232

Jarab is the greatest enemy of the camel and is the ordinary camel-mange. This scourge breaks out every now and then among herds, and may be likened to smallpox.

It spreads through a herd with lightning rapidity, and if not taken in hand, kills the camel in forty days, especially during the summer season.

Dickson G-5 (1929-47) 1951 MI 1 Kuwait
Bedouins MJ4

232 The cure is as follows:

The camel's whole body is covered with a mixture of lime and arsenic, which removes all his hair.

Then he is rubbed with *samen* (clarified butter) and powdered sulphur, mixed with red pepper.

This rubbing is repeated every four days with great care, till three rubbings have been well applied.

Lastly, he is washed in the sea, or if no sea is near, in fresh water heavily dosed with salt.

Al ghish, is caused by the *surra* fly which is found on the banks of the Euphrates and South Hamar lake. Probably introduced from India or Persia. This is a most deadly disease but is catching only in summer when the *surra* fly flourishes. When the fly bites, a microbe is introduced into the blood and the camel develops a sort of sleeping sickness with constant low fever. He refuses to eat, and turns his head constantly in the direction of the sun. In forty days he dies. In very rare cases only does he recover. The Badawin brands the camel's stomach with a X, but knows that this has little effect. No Badawin will take his camels up to the vicinity of the Euphrates in Iraq during the summer. Winter is safe.

During the Great War, 1914–18, the British Army in Iraq lost many thousands of camels imported from India for transport services. They were brought and landed in Basra in summer regardless of the advice of those who knew.

Al manhús is a disease of the lungs. The camel coughs a great deal, and if not taken in hand goes off his feed and eventually dies. The illness is said to be caused by eating too much *thelèth*, a salty *hamdh* plant which grows in marshy country (e.g. Banáyat Araifjan and Taffat al Athami in Hazzaim region). *Al manhús* is said to be highly contagious. A camel attacked is removed from the herd at once. About half of those developing the disease die.

When a camel is about to collapse from thirst, and there is not sufficient water to give him a drink by the mouth, *nashak* is resorted to. Water is poured up his nose to revive it. A camel so treated will go another whole day without water, and the treatment is said to cool his brain.

Philby records the treatment on pages 267–73, 328, 332–3, 338 and 346 of his *The Empty Quarter*.

k Dickson G-5 (1929-47) 1951 MI 1 Kuwait
Bedouins MJ4

Branding of Camels

Chap. XXXII

A curious custom exists among certain tribes, revealing their firm belief in *'iziqad*, or sympathetic magic. 232

If a man has a white and a black camel, and one goes lame, say the white one, in the leg, he brands the black camel on the same leg that is lame in the white camel, and the white camel's lameness is believed to disappear. (Authority, Shaikh of Kuwait, 25th November, 1933.)

MILCH CAMELS

Male camels, as already mentioned, are kept away from females in winter, the breeding season. In summer the sexes are allowed to graze together. 233

Milch camels are not allowed to feed their young when grazing. The milk is wanted for the tent, and only after tent requirements are taken is the mother allowed to suckle the baby camel. The young camel is allowed to feed in the evening, and before going out in early morning.

To prevent a baby camel's illicit drinking, the mother's udders are tied to a piece of stick called a *sardr*. (*Saru al ndgd*, means "tie the she-camel's teats up".)

The female has four teats and the stick is tied to two at a time. (See sketch, page 100.)

On 9th May, 1935, when drinking some camel's milk among the 'Ajman, I saw the tying-up process. To enable us to milk the camel the strings were loosed, and when the 'Ajman herdsman tied them up again he placed a piece of camel's wool between string and teats before fastening them to the *sardr*. In one case, having no wool handy, he used an old camel dropping (*jalla*). The piece of wool is to prevent damage or hurt to the nipples.

TRIBAL "WASMS"

Every tribe has its *wasms* or tribal brand marks, corresponding somewhat to our own family crests. The *wasm* is never placed on banners or war flags, and is primarily meant to show the Badawin world to whom such and such camels or wells belong. 619 233 432